

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/930,717

Examiner

John R Paradiso

Applicant(s)

PACKES ET AL.

Art Unit

3721

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 12/23/2004.
2. ☐ The allowed claim(s) is/are 32-37 and 39-48.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on 12 March 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>10/1/03, 10/3/03</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                                       | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## EXAMINER'S COMMENTS

### *Response to Arguments*

1. Applicant's arguments filed 12/23/2004 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

### *Examiner's Amendment*

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Mike Downs on March 7, 2005.

3. The application has been amended as follows:
  - a. In claim 39 between lines 11 and 12, the following words have been inserted:  
- - storing an indication of the at least one selection in a database; - - .

Art Unit: 3721

- b. In claim 39 between lines 12 and 13, the following words have been inserted:
  - - retrieving the at least one selection from the database; - - .
  
- c. In claim 40 between lines 7 and 8, the following words have been inserted:
  - - storing an indication of the preference in a database; - - .
  
- d. In claim 40 between lines 8 and 9, the following words have been inserted:
  - - retrieving an indication of the preference from the database; - - .
  
- e. In the Specification, in paragraph [4] line 2, after “filed November 9, 1999, “ the words - - now U.S. Patent 6,244,957, - - have been added.
  
- f. In the Specification, in paragraph [4] line 4, the words  
“December 30, 1996 and granted January 11, 2000” have been replaced with  
- - December 30, 1996, now U.S. Patent 6,012,983. - -

***Reasons for Allowance***

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art could not alone or in combination anticipate or make obvious a method including receiving player preferences, storing them in a database, determining game outcome, then retrieving the preferences from the database.

The most pertinent prior art, SCHNEIER ET AL, discloses a method comprising entering a request for a lottery ticket and transmitting that request. It does not disclose storing or retrieving preferences from a database.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

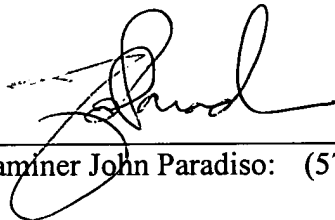
Art Unit: 3721

***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Paradiso. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday, 9:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (ET).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada, can be reached at the number listed below.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the 3700 Technology Center Receptionist.



Examiner John Paradiso: (571) 272-4466

March 6, 2005

**Additional Phone Numbers:**

Supervisor Rinaldi Rada: (571) 308-7135

Fax (Official): (703) 872-9306

Fax (Direct to Examiner) (571) 273-4466 (Drafts only)